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March 9, 2001

BOX PATENT APPLICATION  
Assistant Director For Patents  
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EXPRESS MAIL MAILING LABEL NO.: EL072251198US  
DATE OF DEPOSIT: MARCH 9, 2001  
I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 C.F.R. § 1.10 on the dated indicated above and is addressed to BOX PATENT APPLICATION, Assistant Director for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

DERRICK T. GORDON

Name of Person Mailing Paper or Fee

*Derrick T. Gordon*  
Signature

March 9, 2001  
Date of Signature

Re: New U.S. Patent Application  
METHOD FOR MANUFACTURING A HOLLOW RACK SHAFT  
By: Akira TSUBOUCHI, Kiyoshi OKUBO, and  
Yasushi WATANABE  
Attorney Docket: 18733/00040

Dear Sir:

Enclosed for filing are the following papers relating to METHOD FOR MANUFACTURING A HOLLOW RACK SHAFT, Akira TSUBOUCHI, Kiyoshi OKUBO, and Yasushi WATANABE, inventors:

- (1) Specification (38 pages, including 14 claims and an abstract);
- (2) Executed Declaration and Power of Attorney (8 pages);
- (3) Formal Drawings (14 sheets);
- (4) Transmittal letter (2 pages) with PrintEFS Patent Application Bibliographic Data (2 pages);

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- (5) Transmittal letter (2 pages) with certified copies of Japanese priority documents nos. 2000-064298 (23 pages), 2000-114306 (20 pages), and 2000-114502 (24 pages);
- (6) Information Disclosure Statement (3 pages) and PTO-1449 Form (1 page), and copies of three (3) references cited; and
- (7) Assignment (2 pages) of the invention to NSK Ltd., with attached Recordation Form Cover Sheet (1 page) (in duplicate).

The amount of the filing fee is calculated below:

			Fee for small entity			Fee for other than small entity	
Fee	No. filed	No. extra *	Rate	Fee	OR	Rate	Fee
Basic fee				\$355	OR		\$710
Total claims	14-20=	0	X \$9=	\$0	OR	X \$18=	\$-0-
Independent claims	9-3=	6	X \$40=	\$0	OR	X \$80=	\$480
Multiple Dependent Claim Presented	0	0	+\$135=	\$0	OR	+\$270=	\$-0-
			Total	\$0	OR	Total	\$1190

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Please charge the required fees (\$1,190.00 for the application filing and excess claims fee, and \$40.00 for recordal of the Assignment) to Sidley & Austin's Deposit Account No. 18-1260. If additional fees are due, please charge any fees required during the pendency of this application (other than the issue fee) to Deposit Account No. 18-1260. Please credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 18-1260.

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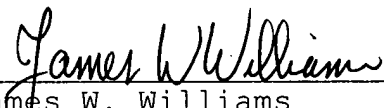
Page 3

This transmittal letter is being filed in duplicate.

All correspondence is to be directed to the address associated with the Customer Number 24731.

Respectfully submitted,

By:

  
James W. Williams  
Registration No. 20,047  
Attorney for Applicants

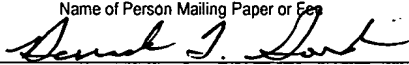
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Enclosures

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re

U.S. application of: Akira TSUBOUCHI, Kiyoshi OKUBO,  
and Yasushi WATANABE  
For: METHOD FOR MANUFACTURING A HOLLOW  
RACK SHAFT  
U.S. Serial No.: To Be Assigned  
Filed: Concurrently  
Group Art Unit: To Be Assigned  
Examiner: To Be Assigned

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Assistant Director  
for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

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Dear Sir:

**TRANSMITTAL OF PrintEFS PATENT APPLICATION**

**BIBLIOGRAPHIC DATA**

Submitted herewith is bibliographic data (2 pages) for  
the above-identified application, in the PrintEFS Version  
1.0.1 program format.